GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6922
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2000
FOODGRAIN PRODUCTION
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study conducted by United Nations Population Fund has revealed that1/3 of India's population is hungry depsite four-fold increase in food production since independence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate a new scheme to increase the food production and effectively implement them to remove the poverty/hunger; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) & (b) A Study on Population, Food Production and Nutrition in India,commissioned by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), India (October 1999)has mentioned that around one-third of its population 320 million in 1997, was considered 'food unsecure', consuming less than 80 percent of minimum energy nutrient.

(c) & (d) The agricultural development strategy for the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997- 2002) is essentially based on the policy of food security announced by the Government to double food production and make India hunger-free in ten years. A regionally differentiated strategy based on agro-climatic regional planning, which takes into account agronomic, climatic and environmental conditions, has been adopted to realise the full potential of growth in every region to achieve the objective.